

## Fill in this information to identify your case:

United States Bankruptcy Court for the:

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Case number (if known)

Chapter 11

☐ Check if this an amended filing

## Official Form 201

## Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy

04/20

If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write the debtor's name and the case number (if known). For more information, a separate document, *Instructions for Bankruptcy Forms for Non-Individuals*, is available.

1. Debtor's name Simply Essentials, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company

2. All other names debtor used in the last 8 years

Include any assumed names, trade names and doing business as names

fdba Simple Essentials (misspelled)

3. Debtor's federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-5453468

4. Debtor's address

Principal place of business

Mailing address, if different from principal place of business

1075 North Avenue  
Sanger, CA 93657

Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

Fresno  
County

P.O. Box, Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

Location of principal assets, if different from principal place of business

901 N. Main Street Charles City, IA 50616  
Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

5. Debtor's website (URL) None

6. Type of debtor

☒ Corporation (including Limited Liability Company (LLC) and Limited Liability Partnership (LLP))

☐ Partnership (excluding LLP)

☐ Other. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Debtor **Simply Essentials, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company**  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Case number (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Describe debtor's business A. Check one:

- ☐ Health Care Business (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(27A))  
☐ Single Asset Real Estate (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B))  
☐ Railroad (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(44))  
☐ Stockbroker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(53A))  
☐ Commodity Broker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(6))  
☐ Clearing Bank (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 781(3))  
☒ None of the above

B. Check all that apply

- ☐ Tax-exempt entity (as described in 26 U.S.C. § 501)  
☐ Investment company, including hedge fund or pooled investment vehicle (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80a-3)  
☐ Investment advisor (as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 80b-2(a)(11))

C. NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) 4-digit code that best describes debtor.

See <http://www.uscourts.gov/four-digit-national-association-naics-codes>.

3116

8. Under which chapter of the Bankruptcy Code is the debtor filing? Check one:

- ☐ Chapter 7  
☐ Chapter 9

☒ Chapter 11. Check all that apply:

A debtor who is a "small business debtor" must check the first sub-box. A debtor as defined in § 1182(1) who elects to proceed under subchapter V of chapter 11 (whether or not the debtor is a "small business debtor") must check the second sub-box.

- ☐ The debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D), and its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,725,625. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).  
☐ The debtor is a debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 1182(1), its aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$7,500,000, and it chooses to proceed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11. If this sub-box is selected, attach the most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return, or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).  
☐ A plan is being filed with this petition.  
☐ Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).  
☐ The debtor is required to file periodic reports (for example, 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission according to § 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. File the Attachment to Voluntary Petition for Non-Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy under Chapter 11 (Official Form 201A) with this form.  
☐ The debtor is a shell company as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rule 12b-2.

☐ Chapter 12

9. Were prior bankruptcy cases filed by or against the debtor within the last 8 years?

- ☐ No.  
☒ Yes.

If more than 2 cases, attach a separate list.

District 20-00305

When 3/06/20

Case number ND of Iowa

District \_\_\_\_\_

When \_\_\_\_\_

Case number \_\_\_\_\_

\*Involuntary Petition Disputed

10. Are any bankruptcy cases pending or being filed by a business partner or an affiliate of the debtor?

- ☒ No  
☐ Yes.

List all cases. If more than 1, attach a separate list

Debtor \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

When \_\_\_\_\_

Case number, if known \_\_\_\_\_

Debtor **Simply Essentials, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company**  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Case number (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

11. Why is the case filed in this district?

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Debtor has had its domicile, principal place of business, or principal assets in this district for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other district.
- ☐ A bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership is pending in this district.

12. Does the debtor own or have possession of any real property or personal property that needs immediate attention?

☒ No

☐ Yes. Answer below for each property that needs immediate attention. Attach additional sheets if needed.

Why does the property need immediate attention? (Check all that apply.)

☐ It poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable hazard to public health or safety.

What is the hazard? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ It needs to be physically secured or protected from the weather.

☐ It includes perishable goods or assets that could quickly deteriorate or lose value without attention (for example, livestock, seasonal goods, meat, dairy, produce, or securities-related assets or other options).

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Where is the property? \_\_\_\_\_

Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

Is the property insured?

☐ No

☐ Yes. Insurance agency \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Statistical and administrative information

13. Debtor's estimation of available funds

Check one:

- ☒ Funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors.
- ☐ After any administrative expenses are paid, no funds will be available to unsecured creditors.

14. Estimated number of creditors

☐ 1-49

☒ 50-99

☐ 100-199

☐ 200-999

☐ 1,000-5,000

☐ 5001-10,000

☐ 10,001-25,000

☐ 25,001-50,000

☐ 50,001-100,000

☐ More than 100,000

15. Estimated Assets

☐ \$0 - \$50,000

☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000

☐ \$100,001 - \$500,000

☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million

☐ \$1,000,001 - \$10 million

☒ \$10,000,001 - \$50 million

☐ \$50,000,001 - \$100 million

☐ \$100,000,001 - \$500 million

☐ \$500,000,001 - \$1 billion

☐ \$1,000,000,001 - \$10 billion

☐ \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion

☐ More than \$50 billion

16. Estimated liabilities

☐ \$0 - \$50,000

☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000

☐ \$100,001 - \$500,000

☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million

☐ \$1,000,001 - \$10 million

☐ \$10,000,001 - \$50 million

☐ \$50,000,001 - \$100 million

☒ \$100,000,001 - \$500 million

☐ \$500,000,001 - \$1 billion

☐ \$1,000,000,001 - \$10 billion

☐ \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion

☐ More than \$50 billion

Debtor **Simply Essentials, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company**  
Name

Case number (if known)

**Request for Relief, Declaration, and Signatures**

**WARNING** -- Bankruptcy fraud is a serious crime. Making a false statement in connection with a bankruptcy case can result in fines up to \$500,000 or imprisonment for up to 20 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519, and 3571.

**17. Declaration and signature of authorized representative of debtor**

The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

I have examined the information in this petition and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on

08/06/2020  
MM/DD/YYYY

X

David B. Pitman  
Signature of authorized representative of debtor

David B. Pitman  
Printed name

Title Secretary of Pitman Farms, Inc., Sole Member and Manager

**18. Signature of attorney**

X

Riley C. Walter  
Signature of attorney for debtor

Date

Aug 8, 2020  
MM/DD/YYYY

Riley C. Walter 91839  
Printed name

Wanger Jones Helsley  
Firm name

265 E. River Park Circle, Ste. 310  
Fresno, CA 93720-1563  
Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code

Contact phone (559) 233-4800

Email address rwalter@wjhattorneys.com

91839 CA

Bar number and State

**CERTIFICATE OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING COMMENCEMENT OF CHAPTER 11 CASE**

We, Richard J. Pitman and David D. Pitman, the undersigned, President and Secretary/Treasurer of Pitman Farms Inc., Sole Member and Manager of Simply Essentials, LLC ("LLC"), hereby certify and declare under penalty of perjury that the following is a true and correct excerpt from the official records of said corporation, truly and correctly reflecting the matters transacted by the said LLC at a special meeting duly called and held on August 9, 2020.

"WHEREAS, the LLC qualifies as a debtor under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, and that it is in the best interest of the LLC to file a petition under Chapter 11; therefore;

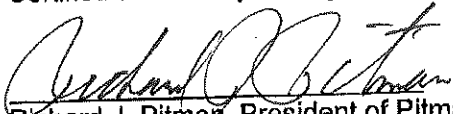
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, that the LLC should file a petition under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that Wanger Jones Helsley be retained to represent the LLC on all matters related to the Chapter 11 case, including the filing of the petition and initial pleadings.

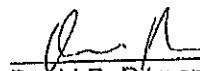
IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that Richard J. Pitman and David B. Pitman, the undersigned, President and Secretary and Treasurer of the Sole Member, be authorized and directed to execute any and all petitions, statements, schedules, plans, and other necessary documents in the Chapter 11 case as well as attend the 341(a) Meeting of Creditors on behalf of the LLC.

The foregoing matters transacted and approved on behalf of the LLC at a special meeting duly called and held on the 9th day of August, 2020"

Certified this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020, by



Richard J. Pitman, President of Pitman Farms Inc., Sole Member and Manager



David B. Pitman, Secretary/Treasurer of Pitman Farms, Inc., Sole Member and Manager

**Fill in this information to identify the case:**

Debtor name Simply Essentials, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company  
United States Bankruptcy Court for the: EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
Case number (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check if this is an  
amended filing

**Official Form 204****Chapter 11 or Chapter 9 Cases: List of Creditors Who Have the 20 Largest Unsecured Claims and Are Not Insiders**

12/15

A list of creditors holding the 20 largest unsecured claims must be filed in a Chapter 11 or Chapter 9 case. Include claims which the debtor disputes. Do not include claims by any person or entity who is an insider, as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(31). Also, do not include claims by secured creditors, unless the unsecured claim resulting from inadequate collateral value places the creditor among the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims.

**See Attached.**

## 20 Largest

Name	Claim Amount
NMTC	\$ 34,000,000.00
Prairie's Best Farms, Inc.	\$ 2,110,000.00
Ryder Truck Rental, Inc.	\$ 10,007.36
AARK Food Company, Inc.	unknown
Dale Lahn	unknown
Shane Kuehl	unknown
Pop's Poultry Farm	unknown
Rick Weltzein	unknown
Dan Schlichting	unknown
Dennis Gilbertson	unknown
Ray Weltzien	unknown
Mike Schlessner	unknown
Tyler Bortle	unknown
Ray Weltzien	unknown
Rodney Boser	unknown
John Tschida	unknown
David Welle	unknown
Chris Uhlenkamp	unknown
Ray Weltzien	unknown
Curt Larson	unknown
Lee Frie	unknown
Floyd Kevin Ringler	unknown
Clyde Gumbert	unknown
Rustic Ridge Farm	unknown
Gumbert Brookfield Farms	unknown